MAYOR JEFFREY A. MACMILLEN DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS ZAMPANO

TOWN MANAGER



COUNCIL MEMBERS BRUCE ABELSON ROSE MARIE ANGELONI MARIE E. DIAMOND WALTER GOAD VINCENT J. MASE, SR. RONALD PELLICCIA, JR.

# TOWN OF NORTH BRANFORD

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North Branford Public Safety Communications Committee Meeting

Special Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Time: 4:00 P.M.

Location: North Branford Police

Department 260 Forest Rd., Northford, CT

Commissioners Room

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Chairman Palumbo

#### 2. In attendance:

- a. Chairman Commissioner Palumbo, Fire Commissioners Onofrio and Civitello, Police Commissioner Pietrandrea, Council Member Diamond, Police Chief Halloran, Fire Chief Esposito, ACOT Amatrudo, DCO Collangelo
- 3. Update on the Public Safety Radio System (NERC)
  - a. PD Installations
    - i. Mr. Zito reported that the PD installations have been completed for some time.
  - b. DPW
    - i. Installations started this week. DPW Director Fran Merola said he was experiencing problems with the installer and stopped the installations, requesting Mr. Zito to address the problem. Fran Merola reported that the installer is reusing existing wiring harnesses and speakers. Mr. Zito said this is unacceptable and will address the problem immediately.
    - ii. Director Merola said that the installer gave him the impression that the new radios would not work. Mr. Zito informed Director Merola that the installer's comments were inaccurate
    - iii. Director Merola asked if the telephone circuit used for his radio system could be eliminated after the installation of the new radio system. Mr. Zito said he believes it can be, but will double-check.

## c. FD Installations

- i. Installations are approximately 75% complete. Chief Esposito is in the process of scheduling a mechanic to install wiring from the air brakes on the apparatus, which is used to activate the onboard radio repeaters.
- ii. Chief Esposito also reported that one of the radios experienced a failure. The radio wouldn't transmit. Norcomm installed a temporary radio.

# d. Equipment Reconciliation

- i. Mr. Zito reported that there were changes with the subscriber units following the original customer design review as Motorola learned more about the needs of the radio system. He said that he and Chief Halloran reviewed the equipment list line by line to ensure that we received what we ordered.
- ii. Mr. Zito discussed the issue with three (3) administrative radios that were not ordered for the fire department. There was some confusion, he was unaware that during the changes after the customer design review, the fire department requested the three radios be swapped out for a different model, and reordering the new model was overlooked.
- iii. Mr. Zito said that with all of the changes that were made, we can anticipate approximately a \$12,000 change order.
- iv. Commissioner Pietrandrea requested that the department heads conduct a final review of their needs for radios and equipment and submit them to Chief Halloran to be forwarded to Paul Zito.

## 4. Tower Updates

## a. Tilcon

- i. Mr. Zito reported that most of the work is completed at the Tilcon Tower. He anticipated that the work would be completed in the next two weeks. The generator and cabinet are scheduled to be delivered on Friday.
- ii. Mr. Zito said that Frontier requested photos showing that the required work was completed before the fiber connection was made. Today, Mr. Zito provided the photos to Frontier and will schedule the connection. He anticipates the fiber connection to be completed in the next couple of weeks.

#### b. Homeland Towers

- i. Mr. Zito said that work began on the tower last week. A partial mount was installed but work stopped because of the inclement weather.
- ii. Mr. Zito said we have to wait for Verizon to complete their work before we start our work, but added we might be able to get ahead of some work such as pouring the pads for the cabinet.

- iii. The question was raised if we can get on the new frequency with only the Tilcon Tower running. Mr. Zito said the entire system is contingent on both towers being up and running. He also said he is pretty confident that both towers will be completed by Christmas.
- 5. Citizen Comments
  - a. None
- 6. Adjournment
  - a. Commissioner Civitello made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:45
  - b. The motion was seconded by ACOT Amatrudo
  - c. The meeting adjourned at 4:45

Respectfully submitted,

-David Palumbo, Chairman